

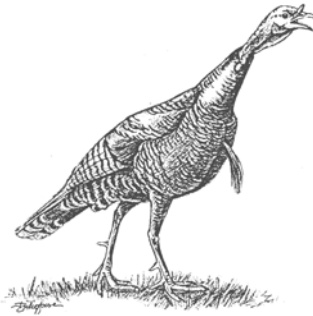


# FISH AND GAME NEWS RELEASE

**(559) 243-4005**  
extension 132 or 133

THE RESOURCES AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
1234 EAST SHAW AVENUE  
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93710

**W. E. Loudermilk,**  
**Regional Manager**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 19, 2003

## TWO SPRING WILD TURKEY HUNTS

The Department of Fish and Game, (Department) through its Game Bird Heritage Program, the Tejon Ranch and the Millerton Lake State Recreation Area are offering **free** spring wild turkey hunts. Providing hunter opportunity and hunter access are major goals of the Game Bird Heritage Program.

### Tejon Ranch Hunt

Tejon Ranch is located south of Bakersfield in the Tehachapi Mountains. **Ten free guided hunts are scheduled for Juniors ONLY, four hunters on April 10, four hunters on April 17 and two hunters April 18, 2004.** The Department in cooperation with Tejon Ranch released the Merriam's subspecies of wild turkey on the Tejon Ranch in 1989. They have adapted well to the habitat, and large flocks now populate the ranch.

### Millerton Lake State Recreation Area Hunt

The Millerton Lake State Recreation Area Hunt is located on the Fresno County side of Millerton Lake. **This hunt is not recommended for the novice or inexperienced hunter.** Hunting wild turkeys with archery equipment is considered extremely difficult, even by experienced archery turkey hunters. There are six **archery only** hunts. The first hunt is scheduled for opening weekend, March 27-28, 2004 and is a two-day hunt only. Hunters drawn for this hunt will be allowed to scout one week prior (March 20-26, 2004). The remaining hunts are one-week long and are scheduled for March 29-April 4, April 5-11, April 12-18, April 19-25 and April 26-May 2, 2004. Hunters under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or older).

All hunters selected for this hunt will be required to attend a **mandatory** safety and orientation meeting on Saturday, March 20, 2004, at 9:00 a.m., at the Millerton Lake District Office. A special limit of one bearded turkey per hunter will be in effect during this special hunt. The hunting area has both walk-in and boat-in access. Hunters will be required to pay a \$5.00 State Parks and Recreation Area entrance fee per day (waived in lieu of a \$67.00 annual State Parks pass).

### How to Apply

Hunters will be selected by a random computerized drawing and allowed to bring one guest to participate in these special hunts. When applying for the hunts, provide the following information for **yourself and your guest**: ① name, ② address, ③ daytime and evening telephone numbers, ④ 2003-2004 hunting license number and ⑤ hunt location (e.g., "Tejon"), and date in order of preference. Hunters may apply only **once** for each hunt area and date. Applying for the same hunt or date more than once will disqualify you from the drawing. Applications must be mailed to:

Game Bird Heritage Program Turkey Hunts  
Department of Fish and Game  
1234 East Shaw Avenue  
Fresno, California 93710

Applications must be **received** by Friday, March 5, 2004, at 5:00 p.m. to be eligible for the drawing. Only successful applicants will be notified. For additional information about the hunts, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Game Bird Heritage Program at (559) 243-4005, extension 132 or 133. The Game Bird Heritage Program, Tejon Ranch and Millerton Lake State Parks and Recreation Area are pleased to offer these special hunts to the public.

Application on Reverse Side

This information and application can be found by visiting the Department's web page at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

*Game Bird*  
HERITAGE